Approved For Release 2006/12/06 : CIA-RDP66B00403R000400230019-1

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM

TO : Director of Central Intelligence
Secretary of State
Secretary of Defense
Director of the Office of Emergency Planning

SUBJECT: Roles of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Central Intelligence Agency in Wartime and in National Emergencies Short of War

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to affirm the role of the Director of Central Intelligence and of the Central Intelligence Agency in the event of war (including general war involving the Continental U. S.) and during periods of national emergency short of war, and to provide a clear understanding of the responsibility during such a period of the Director of Central Intelligence and of the Central Intelligence Agency.

2. The responsibilities of the Director of Central Intelligence as the Government's principal intelligence officer (based on statute, the President's memorandum of 16 January 1962 for the Director of Central Intelligence, and other pertinent orders and directives) will continue under any of the above specified events. In like manner, responsibilities of the Central Intelligence Agency, which are carried out under the direction of the National Security Council (as set forth in statute and pertinent orders and directives), will also continue.

3. Agreements between the Central Intelligence Agency and the Department of Defense, pertaining to the relationship of Central Intelligence Agency components to given theater commanders or commands where Agency components are located in active theaters of war where American forces are engaged, will be implemented under any of the above in accordance with the provisions of such agreements upon assignment of a Central Intelligence Agency force by the Director of Central Intelligence to a given theater commander or command.

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4. The Director of Central Intelligence shall make (a) the necessary arrangements including communications, liaison, and logistical requirements to assure his support of the President with respect to the total United States intelligence effort, and (b) for the conduct of appropriate activities of the Central Intelligence Agency. The Department of State, the Department of Defense, the Office of Emergency Planning, as well as other departments and agencies of the Government as appropriate, will render to the Director of Central Intelligence all assistance as he may require in carrying out his mission as herein directed.

5. The Director of Central Intelligence shall keep the President appropriately informed concerning the existing and projected status of intelligence support to the President and the posture of Central Intelligence Agency readiness.

cc: Secretary of the Treasury
The Attorney General
Secretary of Commerce
Director of the Bureau of the Budget
Director of the U. S. Information Agency
Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation

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